

CONFERENCE REPORT ON H.R. 2264,
DEPARTMENTS OF LABOR,
HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES,
AND EDUCATION, AND RELATED
AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS
ACT, 1998

SPEECH OF

HON. MAXINE WATERS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 7, 1997

Ms. WATERS. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to support the fiscal year 2000 \$300 million dollar funding level for the Corporation for Public Broadcasting contained in this bill. That is a \$50 million dollar increase over last year, an amount which only partially offsets the three consecutive years of rescission of public broadcasting funds. The American public has sent a clear message to Congress that it supports a public broadcasting system.

The House Appropriations report concerning CPB funding specifically supports the commitment made by CPB in 1994 to formalize partnerships among the organizations of the National Minority Public Broadcasting Consortia, television stations and other public broadcasting organizations to maximize resources to increase the amount of multicultural programming on public television. That 1994 agreement was over a year in the making, but unfortunately, it has never received any funding.

I trust that \$50 million dollar increase will make it possible to fund the Principles of Partnership Initiative, and would encourage CPB to see if they can find fiscal year 1998 and fiscal year 1999 funds to get this Initiative of collaboration under way.

The Minority Consortia organizations—Pacific Islanders in Communications, National Black Programming Consortium, National Latino Communications Center, National Asian American Telecommunications Association, Native American Public Telecommunications—have provided Public Broadcasting's program schedule hundreds of hours of programming addressing the cultural, social, and economic issues of the country's racial and ethnic communities. Additionally, each consortium has been engaged in cultivating ongoing relationships with the independent minority producer community by providing program funding, programming support, and distribution assistance. They also provide numerous hours of programming to individual public television and radio stations.

I would like to point out that the newest Consortia member, Pacific Islanders in Communications, is headquartered in Hawaii and has already had major responsibility for several award winning public broadcast productions, notably "Storytellers of the Pacific" which was co-produced with Native American Public Telecommunications, and "And Then There Were None."

I look forward to an increasingly productive partnership between public broadcasting and the National Minority Public Broadcasting organizations and the communities they represent.

IN HONOR OF SUSAN STRONG

HON. ROBERT T. MATSUI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 13, 1997

Mr. MATSUI. Mr. Speaker, I am honored to rise today in tribute to Ms. Susan Strong, former executive director of the Center for AIDS Research, Education and Services [CARES].

Located in Sacramento, CA, CARES provides a unique mix of out-patient, state-of-the-art medical care, mental health counseling, health education and case management services, and psychiatric services to persons living with HIV and AIDS.

In 1988, it took a tremendous collaborative effort among northern California's major public and private health care entities to establish the Center for AIDS Research, Education and Services as a community-based clinic.

Under the leadership of Susan Strong, CARES grew to become a major regional HIV/AIDS non-profit clinic in northern and central California. Its growth is a testament to the professional abilities of its former executive director.

The dream of establishing a centralized location in the downtown Sacramento area to provide quality health service while coordinating with other AIDS service providers was fully realized under the stewardship of Susan Strong.

Since the founding of CARES, the epidemic of HIV and AIDS has changed dramatically, impacting more women of color, a community whose special needs are varied and great. Under the guidance of Susan Strong, CARES established a Women's Clinic to meet these special concerns.

As executive director, Ms. Strong steered CARES to ensure that the depth and breadth of its services continually expanded and strengthened while serving an ever-increasing and demanding client case load.

It is through Susan Strong's inspiration, dedication, and hard work at CARES that the Sacramento area and the entire northern California region has benefited in the successful operation of these programs to care for those suffering from HIV and AIDS.

Although Ms. Strong departed from her position as CARES executive director last month, the foundation of compassionate care which she laid so well will carry-on for years to come.

Since its founding, CARES has served approximately 3,000 infected people and maintains an active caseload of approximately 1,200 clients at this time.

These patients rely upon the extraordinary specialized medical expertise which CARES provides. Without the steady guidance of Susan Strong, CARES would not be the great success story that it is today.

Mr. Speaker, today I ask my colleagues to join with me in saluting the remarkable work of Susan Strong, a great leader in the area of community-based HIV and AIDS health care in Sacramento. I am confident that her selfless

endeavors at CARES will endure well into Sacramento's future.

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SPEECH OF

HON. PATSY T. MINK

OF HAWAII

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 7, 1997

Mrs. MINK of Hawaii. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of the Conference Report on H.R. 2264, the Labor Health and Human Services, and Education Appropriations Bill for Fiscal Year 1998, and want to take this time to specifically express my support for the funding for the Corporation for Public Broadcasting.

The conference report includes \$300 million in advance funding for fiscal year 2000 for the Corporation, which is a \$50 million increase over the fiscal year 1999 level. I hope that these additional funds will make it possible to fund the Principles of Partnership Initiative, a \$5 million effort set forth by the Corporation in 1994 to increase the amount of multicultural programming on public television. This initiative is to be accomplished through the establishment of formal partnerships among the organizations of the National Minority Public Broadcasting Consortia, television stations, and other public broadcasting organizations.

The House Committee Report specifically supported this initiative and called upon the Corporation to maximize resources for this initiative.

The National Minority Public Broadcasting Consortia organizations include Pacific Islanders in Communications, National Black Programming Consortium, National Latino Communications Center, National Asian American Telecommunications Association, and Native American Public Telecommunications. They have contributed hundreds of hours of programming addressing the cultural, social and economic issues of our country's racial and ethnic communities. These important programs help us explore who we are and learn more about the rich diversity of cultures and experiences that define our country.

I am proud to note that the newest member of the Consortium is Pacific Islanders in Communications which is headquartered in Hawaii. This group has already promoted several award winning public broadcast productions including "Storytellers of the Pacific" which was co-produced with Native American Public Telecommunications.

Mr. Speaker, I sincerely hope this increase in funding will allow the Corporation to fully implement the goals of the Principles of Partnership Initiative in Fiscal Year 2000 and that the Corporation will work dedicate resources now to begin this unique partnership project to recognize and highlight the contributions of our diverse ethnic populations.